



# MAYBEE SOCIETY COMMUNICATOR

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## The President's Corner

Dear Cousins,

It seems fall has arrived here in the northeast. The nights are cooling down, the days are shorter. It has been a rainy wet summer here for us, but I should count my blessings as other parts of the country are not faring as well.

I have been trying to clean up my basement and finish projects in between bike rides, walks, and visiting family and friends, still with constraints occasionally to COVID. I just completed rewriting our DAR chapter history. That required reading over 100 years of scrapbooks and minutes with questions as to why they did what they did. I was amazed that absolutely nothing was said about the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918. But they did create a book of honored family members that were in WWI. I had questions of WHY they never bought, received, or were donated a historic chapter house to meet in! It seems they started to save for one, but it just never happened. However, in all those crumbling scrapbooks, there was tons of neat history articles cut from the newspapers. Several were on the Mabee farm! Here is one I would like to share with you:



The next item on my list was to tell you about lots of further publicity on the Slingerlands Family Vault in Bethlehem. They did an impressive job of restoration. Here are some links to see for yourself.  
<https://youtu.be/oAYHwd6Zh8E>

Photos of the event can be found here: <https://www.slingerlandvault.org/progress>

Next up would be perhaps the last wedding to be performed IN the Mabee house by inhabitants/renters!?



Finally, I came across a number of quotes that really made an impression on me, and thought I should share some of them in the next few issues. This is one.

Frank Delaney said, “To understand and reconnect with our stories, the stories of the ancestors, is to build our identities. When one walks up to a tombstone or a memorial site, there arises a feeling of brevity and wonder. You might run a finger across the etched birth and death dates. You know that between birth and death, there is a lifetime of stories. An understanding arises that they have been where you are now – and someday you will be where they now rest. When you stand before the grave of a loved one, you understand that their story intermingles with yours. Their influence has contributed to your own story.”

Kim Mabee  
President

## Research Update

By Steve Mabee  
Vice-President

You may recall that in our previous edition (July 2021), I promised to address the current status of the search for the European roots of our ancestor, Pieter Casparszen van Naerden. What follows is a summary of what we have at this time.

As I wrote in July, when we go looking through European records, what we are looking for is a male named Pieter, born between say 1610 and 1625, whose father is named Caspar and whose mother is named either Maria or Angelica, and who left Europe by 1647. It is also likely that our Pieter was either born, baptized, or had some familial ties to a place that at least sounds like Naerden.

In the summer of 2019, we were contacted by a Dutch researcher by the name of Kathy Lyon who had been doing some research in the Tiel archive. Documents in this archive include so-called “transport” records for the town of Beesd, referring to the movement of property from one owner to another. I have some previous research experience with transport records while researching the Borsboom Family, and I know that these records can include documents like wills which can indeed be very useful. In follow-up communications, Ms. Lyon shared an outline of the family she found with sufficient details to allow another researcher to check her work and perhaps take it a step further.

It was not easy to find a researcher in the Netherlands who was willing to work with us, particularly due to COVID-19 restrictions. After quite a bit of looking around, I choose Legacy Tree Genealogists to perform the research. This was not a

large contract, as I limited them to 30 hours of research time in an effort to control the cost. Nancy and I paid for two thirds of the contract price, with the Maybee Society paying the remaining one-third.

The task that I wanted done was two-fold: (1) to confirm the existence of the records that Ms. Lyon claimed to have found; and (2) to try to ascertain if the man named “Pieter Casparszen” that Ms. Lyon had located was still in the Netherlands after 1648 (in which case he could not be *our* Pieter) or if there was a record of his death in the Netherlands prior to 1648 (also eliminating him as *our* Pieter.)

Basically, the result was to confirm the claims of Ms. Lyon, but to make no report on the second task. All in all, it was not a very satisfactory report.

So, we are left with the outline of the family provided by Ms. Lyon which follows:

“Generation 1: Peter or Peiter Casparszen or Jasparsen, probably married at least Metje. Peter may have been van Naerden at some point but he could also be the Pierre Gaspar who is on the Leiden Walloon petition. He is named as “Peter Jasparsen” the father of “Jaspar Petersen” in <Loofsignate 1628 -1633, folios 49 & 64, inv. Number 198 (volume)>

Generation 2: They had

1. Caspar Petersen <1634 – 1640, folio 62>, possibly of the Calverstraet in Utrecht, who may have married at least Marritien and had at least Peter Casparsen who perhaps used the name “van Naerden.” Caspar had a child buried at St. Jacob Reformed Dutch Church in Utrecht September

24, 1632 (Utrecht burial records). Caspar may have had a number of daughters: Griet Gaspars, wife of Alert Albertsen, Anna Caspars, wife of Roelof Thonis, and Lyntgen Jaspars, the widow of Willem Jansen van Hermont.

2. Maijken Peters, who married Jan Hendricksen and had at least Hendrick Jansen.
3. Jacob Petersen, wife unknown, who had at least Liensche Jacobs who married Dirck van Oever of Zaltbommel. Jacob had a land holding adjacent to his brother Marcelis Peters.
4. Anna Peters, who married at least Laurens Willems van Iseren. Laurens was the “inheritance agitator” who caused many of the property records to be written
5. Marcelis Petersen, who married at least Jannetje, and had at least Peter Marcelissen. Marcelis also married Ariaentje Aerts van Tussenbroek, widow of Hendrick Jansen.

Of all these people, the only one for whom we have any indication of age is Peter Marcelissen, who emigrated to New Amsterdam with his family in the spring of 1661. From the ship manifest, Peter Marcelissen and his wife Lysbeth had three children, Jannetie (age 6), Agnes (age 4) and Marcelis (age 2).”

Okay, so what does all this prove? Not a lot. All we know is that there was at least one man named Pieter, whose father was named Caspar, and who was born in a time

frame that would be correct for him to be our Pieter.

The only other thing we know with any certainty is that Pieter arrived in New Amsterdam by February 1648, when he was recorded as a baptism witness. This makes it very likely that sometime earlier, when he was first setting sail from the Netherlands, Pieter stopped by a Notary, as was the custom, and left the equivalent of a Will, identifying himself, his age, and his next of kin. There is no doubt in my mind that this document is somewhere in the Netherlands, waiting to be discovered by someone.

## **Back Page Photo**

This is a photo of the tombstone of John Mabee, died 1796, currently located in the Mabee Farm Cemetery. John was originally buried in another family cemetery, across the Mohawk River, and over time the location of that cemetery was lost. The tombstone resurfaced (literally) during a road construction project 50 years ago. It was eventually turned over to the SCHS to be placed in its current location 25 years ago.

## **Obituaries**

### **Sandi Pensinger (MS ID#30618)**

Sandi Pensinger, 65, passed on Sunday, Sept. 19th 2021 at home in Capitola after a long battle with lung cancer. Her loving husband of 42 years, Edwin Mabee, was at her side.

Sandi was born Aug. 3rd, 1956 in Champaign, Illinois to Cynthia (Pratt) & Dr. Robert Pensinger. The family moved frequently but finally settled in Santa Cruz,

California where she graduated from Harbor High School in 1974.

She was married to Edwin on January 31, 1979 on a 50' sailing yacht with the family Golden Retriever at their side. She was a graduate of Cabrillo College and then San Jose State University School of Business with Distinction in 1989.

Sandi embraced the PC revolution and was an early web developer, but she hit her stride with the establishment of her dog training business, *Living with Dogs*, in the year 2000.

Sandi lead many causes over the years, usually to an epic scale, that touched many lives. She organized huge events like the Spring Dog Festivals and Harvest Hops and Hounds that raised more than \$100,000 for the welfare of local dogs.

Sandi loved animals, butterflies, lavender, backpacking, fishing and camping in the Sierra. After being diagnosed with cancer, Sandi took up birding and visited every county in California to augment her bird life list.

Sandi is survived by her husband Edwin Mabee of Capitola, her mother Cynthia Pensinger of Aptos, her brother Doug Pensinger of San Jose, her sister Carol Martone of Corralitos, her nieces: Christina Smiley and Kait Martone, her nephews: Gregory Pensinger and Thomas Martone as well as her beloved Jack Russell Terriers Piper and Pilot.

**Harold Daniel “Dan” Mabee (MS ID #11911)**, son of Ralph Clayton Hilliard Mabee.

Dan Mabee (September 14, 1928 – February 5, 2021) entered into rest at Hospice Prince Edward, Picton. He was the son of the late Ralph & Rowena Mabee

(nee Helmer) and cherished husband for 62 years to Phyllis (nee Foster). Dan was the loving father of Stephen (Brenda), Suzanne McGinn (Glenn), all of Napanee, and Jennifer Mabee of Picton. He was the grandfather of Trevor (Brenda), Curtis (Angelic), Dan (Jannique) and Connor (Kelsey) and great grandfather of Scott, Hudson and Lincoln. Dan is survived by his sisters Alma Mabee, Alice Miller, Sharon Brasseur, and Deanna Beach and is predeceased by sisters Merle Munro, Marjorie Drury and Madeline Bett. He will be fondly remembered by his many nieces and nephews. Dan sailed with Canada Steamship Lines from 1948-1957, then he began a 32 year career with Lake Ontario Cement while also living at and maintaining the family farm. Dan took pleasure in the simple things: nights in with family, nights out with friends, winters in Florida, a good game of euchre, his garden, the radio, and a cold beer.

### **Merle Marie Munro**

– died peacefully at Prince Edward County Memorial Hospital on Friday, March 13, 2015. Merle Munro, of Picton, at the age of 90. Beloved wife of the late Blake. Loved sister of Dan Mabee and his wife Phyllis of Picton, Alma Mabee of Picton, Alice and her husband Wilbur Miller of Black Creek, Sharon Brasseur of Picton, Deanna and her husband Bill Beach, of Picton and the late Madeline Bett and Marjorie Drury and sister-in-law of Sid Drury. Fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews and by her dear friends at Harmony Home.

### **Dues**

The officers of the Maybee Society would like to make clear that the payment of dues, while greatly appreciated, is not required to

maintain good standing as members. Specifically, we understand that some of our members are senior citizens living on fixed incomes, and we do not want anyone who cannot afford it to feel obligated. Many of you have kept up to date on your dues – Thank You. For those who haven't, dues are \$5 per year if you select the e-mail version of the Communicator (in color!), and \$10 per year for the black and white, hard copy version sent via the U.S. Postal Service. Please note that no new orders for the hard copy version are being accepted. All dues should be sent to our Treasurer, Ann Christmann. Checks should be made payable to Ann, NOT to the Maybee Society.

### **Who We Are:**

The Maybee Society Communicator is a publication of the Maybee Society, 15 Van Buren Ln. Rd 4, Scotia, New York, 12302-9473. Dues should be sent to Ann Christmann, Treasurer, at the address below. Checks should be made out to Ann Christmann.

Our Website is: <http://maybeesociety.org/>

Kim Mabee, President, 15 Van Buren Ln. Rd 4, Scotia, New York, 12302-9473 E-mail: [kimandgarymabee@gmail.com](mailto:kimandgarymabee@gmail.com)

Steve Mabie, Vice President and Newsletter Editor, 2139 Oak Creek St., San Antonio TX 78232, E-mail: [Smabie@aol.com](mailto:Smabie@aol.com)

Ann Christmann – Secretary/Treasurer, 718 Pachester Dr., Houston, TX 77079 E-mail [annchristmann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annchristmann@sbcglobal.net)



Photo by Kim Mabee